bank has to be classified under Category 'C'.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had appointed Investment Information & Credit Rating Agency of India (ICRA), a leading firm of consultants, for conducting an indepth study of UCO Bank and suggest strategies for its turnaround. The firm has since submitted its report which is under consideration.

Duty Drawback by Companies

3578. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of fraudulently claiming due to drawback by some firms have come to the notice of the Government during 1996 so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against guilty persons; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to plug all loopholes to check recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, during this year some cases involving fradulent claims of duty drawback have come to the notice of the Customs Department. In one case proprietor of the firm has been arrested and recovery of Rs. 2 lakhs has been made from the company. Investigations in these cases are in progress.

(d) The drawback procedure has already been streamlined by introducing a new Customs & Central Excise Duty Drawback Rules in the year 1995. However, in order to prevent recurrence of fradulent drawback claims, procedure for processing of drawback claims by doing away with the necessity of filing separate claims treating the drawback shipping bills themselves as claims for drawback, by reducing the incidence of drawal of samples for tests, modification of procedure for payment of drawback amounts and computerisation of drawback processing are under active consideration of the Department.

Standard Deduction for Salaried Employees

3579. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODALYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received representations from several people that the standard deduction which had been raised from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 18,000 for salaried employees having an annual income of Rs. 60,000 should be extended to all salaried sections; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The post-Budget representations are examined by the Government as a normal exercise.

Indian Institute of Coal Management

3580. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Coal Management, Ranchi has an annual budget of 12.5 crores;

(b) if so, the average cost of training for executive per day during the year 1995-96; and

(c) the capacity utilization i.e. the total training days available stating the number of working days, the number of class-rooms and the number of participant accommodated alongwith the actual utilized training days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The annual budget of Indian Institute of Coal Management (IICM) for the year 1996-97 is as under :

Revenue - Rs. 7.5 crores

Capital - Rs. 2.23 crores

(b) The average per day cost of training of an executive for the year 1995-96 was Rs. 2,970/-.

(c) The capacity utilization during the year 1995-96 was 57% which has been worked out on the following basis:

i)	No. of working days	—	283
ii)	No. of class rooms	—	5
iii)	Average capacity of the class room	—	20
iv)	Maximum trainee days available during the year	—	28300
v)	Actual trainee days achieved during the year	—	16165

Export of Prawn to U.S.

3581. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that U.S. Government has banned the import of prawn from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and